Mr. I. N. Menon:—(a) Yes.

(b) The question was ordered to lie over and the petitioners were informed accordingly.

(c) No such promise was given.

(d)

1104	1105	1106
13	11	8

(e) 1104—1105 13 girls.
1105—1106 19 girls.
1106—1107 15 girls.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:—In reply to the petition they have been told that the matter is to lie over. Will the Government be pleased to take it up again and see their request is granted?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—It was because of stringency of funds and because of difficulties we had with regard to certain petitions from the people of the locality to the effect that the present location of the school is causing difficulties to some sections of the people. Therefore it was decided that until the whole thing was looked into, building operations should not be undertaken. That is the only reason. But it will be taken up.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.— I invite your attention to page 763 of Volume 2 of the Reports. There it is stated by the then Educational Member that with 20 girls we would begin Fourth Form. I suppose he said between 15 and 20. Vadakkancheri must be made an exception. With the present stength, namely, 15 girls, the High school might be opened and the same number of girls would be there this year also. Will the Government be pleased to allow the school the Fourth Form at least from the next school year?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—I submitted to this House that it is not on the question of number that, so far as this raising of the standard is concerned, the difficulty arises. If my answer to (d) is wrong it does not in the least mean that Government is unwilling to raise the standard. I had the information from the files available and if I am wrong I stand corrected. With regard to the question whether the strength is sufficient, it was not because the strength was 15 that the Government told the petitioners that the matter is to lie over. It is for other reasons. The question of number has never been pledged here for allowing the thing to lie over.

Sluice—ചാലുമടി തോട"

176. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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(a) whether the inhabitants of Chalakkal village in Trichur Taluk had not petitioned the Government to have a sluice put in "ചെമ്മാടി തോട" in their village;

(b) has the Government inquired into the matter and with what result?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes. They had petitoned the Panchayat.

(b) Yes. As the work is a special one under the Panchayat Finance Rules, the beneficiaries have to contribute half the cost. The petitioners seem to be unwilling to do so. The matter was, therefore, not considered.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Has any inquiry been conducted in this matter of putting up a sluice?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes. They conducted the enquiry and found that this sluice is a special work which requires contribution from the parties.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Has the Government come to know that it is an absolutely useful piece of work.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They have come to know that it is a desirable and useful piece of work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What is the amount to be spent upon its construction?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sorry, I have not got the exact figures.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Is there any rule which prevents the Government from putting up the sluice without the contribution of the public, if it is found to be a necessary work?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The rule lays down that in works of this kind half the contribution should be paid by the few interested parties and if they are not willing to do it to attend to other works which will be useful.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Am I to understand that unless the petitioners are prepared to contribute half the amount to be spent upon that scheme they are to go without it?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Certainly they will have to wait till all the others are disposed of.

Panchayats—Vadakkancheri.

177. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) Whether all the six (group) Panchayats which take in the nineteen villages forming the Vadakkancheri Constituency were working during the first ten months of the year 1106;

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